

than 1,000 of America's most forward-thinking cities, States, universities, and businesses, including the cities of Albany, Schenectady, and Saratoga Springs, Union and Skidmore Colleges, and SUNY Albany. So are millions of our fellow Americans and communities in every single congressional district across our great Nation. Together, we will embrace the climate economy, even if our President does not.

President Trump's decision is a scar on America's image, but the American people will continue to demand leadership on reducing carbon pollution. Our children and our grandchildren are counting on us. Let's not fail them.

COMMUNITY BANKS AND DODD-FRANK

(Mrs. ROBY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. ROBY. Mr. Speaker, since the enactment of Dodd-Frank in 2010, a total of 357 financial institutions have been forced out of business. Four community banks in Alabama are on that list. That amounts to nearly \$7.5 billion less in Alabama's economy that could be lent to small businesses and farmers. In all, nearly 20 percent of Alabama's community banks have either closed or been forced to merge under Dodd-Frank.

Why is this happening? Because homegrown banks can't keep up with the crazy compliance costs that Dodd-Frank mandates. Here is an example:

One credit union in Alabama's Wiregrass region, their compliance department size has tripled. They estimate that these new costs have limited their growth by as much as \$60 million. That is not right. Hometown lenders in Alabama didn't cause the financial crisis of 2009, but now they and their customers are paying the price.

There is no question we need strong laws to govern our financial markets, but Dodd-Frank is not the answer. We now have a chance to fix this broken law, untangle this regulatory web, and unleash the capital investment that is so crucial to economic growth.

I urge my colleagues to support the CHOICE Act.

WITHDRAWING FROM THE PARIS CLIMATE ACCORD

(Mr. MCNERNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. MCNERNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today because the safety and future of the American people is in jeopardy.

Last week, the President made the irresponsible decision to withdraw the United States from the Paris climate accord. Military and national security leaders have asserted the need to address climate change as an imminent global threat. Removal from the Paris accord abdicates America's global lead-

ership and increases the likelihood of climate disasters.

However, where our President has failed, State and local leaders are stepping up and leading. For example, last week, California's Governor, Jerry Brown, brokered an agreement with China on reducing emissions. On the campaign trail, the President had a lot to say about China taking American jobs, but when he had the chance to pave the way to create American job growth, he failed.

We must combat climate change and continue to deploy clean energy sources across the Nation that benefit our national security and create jobs.

NATIONAL HEMP HISTORY WEEK

(Mr. COMER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. COMER. Mr. Speaker, this week is National Hemp History Week.

Industrial hemp is a crop that can be used to produce more than 25,000 products, from textiles and fabrics to composites, auto parts, or even food. Hemp is such an industrial crop that, during World War II, the USDA produced a film encouraging farmers to grow hemp to support the war effort because textiles and fibers were in such short supply.

George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, James Madison, and James Monroe all grew hemp. Today, however, industrial hemp is largely illegal for widespread production because the Controlled Substances Act does not make the distinction between hemp and marijuana.

Both are varieties of the cannabis plant, but that is where the similarities end. Unlike marijuana, hemp is high in fiber that makes it so useful and only has miniscule amounts of THC.

In 2004, Congress began to recognize the differences when it passed the 2014 farm bill, which included language to allow industrial hemp pilot programs. Today, more than 30 States have enacted laws to legalize industrial hemp for research or commercial purposes.

I was proud to lead the effort to create a hemp program in Kentucky that has been highly successful, with nearly 250 permitted growers and small businesses today. Now we need to take the next step in bringing hemp into the mainstream as a crop.

I look forward to continuing to work with my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to advance legislation to make industrial hemp a legal crop for the farmers of Kentucky and across the United States of America.

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PROTECT AND EXPAND MONUMENT DESIGNATIONS

(Mr. O'ROURKE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. O'ROURKE. Mr. Speaker, today marks the 111th anniversary of the Antiquities Act. Over more than a century, Presidents of both parties have preserved and opened to the public over 157 monuments, like the Grand Canyon by President Theodore Roosevelt, or Zion in Utah by President William Howard Taft, or the Pacific National Monument in Hawaii by President George W. Bush. It is also connected to our economy and jobs, with 7 million jobs in the United States connected to outdoor recreation in our national monuments.

While this administration is reviewing certain monuments, we need to protect the ones that we already have, like Organ Mountains National Monument in New Mexico, or Bears Ears National Monument in Utah.

We also need to think about expanding national monuments where we have heritage that we want to preserve, like Castner Range, that preserves 10,000 years of human history and civilization in El Paso, Texas, where the United States and Mexico meet.

Mr. Speaker, let's work together to strengthen the Antiquities Act and not diminish its protections.

FREE SPEECH

(Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, people who are the loudest in proclaiming their tolerance are often the most intolerant people of all.

This has been proven in spades this year at the most liberal leftwing college campuses all over this country. Almost all colleges and universities now have programs or offices supposedly promoting diversity. However, this diversity apparently does not apply to conservatives.

Probably the least diverse groups in this Nation today are the faculties of our universities. And while almost everyone in higher education will say they are for freedom of speech, conservative students know they can express their views only at the risk of lower grades.

In addition, almost no leading conservatives are invited to be college commencement speakers. This year, we have even seen very hateful demonstrations and some violence at universities when conservative speakers have been invited to speak at these supposed bastions of free speech. Some of the young student haters conducting their far-left demonstrations would have fit right in during the book-burning, anti-free speech days in Nazi Germany.

FOOD POLICY IS FOREIGN POLICY

(Mr. EVANS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. EVANS. Mr. Speaker, for years, I have said: Food policy is foreign policy.

And I will say it again: Our food policy is our foreign policy.

Think about it. Food unites family and friends. Food is nutritional. Food is medicine. Food is the cement that sets a foundation for strong, healthy neighborhoods.

Just as Senator Dole and Senator McGovern worked together to rebuild SNAP, expand our School Lunch Program, and create WIC to fight hunger 40 years ago, we know food security is a bipartisan issue.

In Philadelphia, 20 percent of our population is food insecure, meaning 1 in 5 Philadelphians often don't know where their next meal will come from. To make our neighborhoods stronger block by block, we need to lay the framework for a strategy that gives our cities the resources to tackle this issue.

Believe me when I say that I know our country is facing trying times we have never seen before. From Comey to Russia, to the President's budget, and the Republican attack on healthcare, I know firsthand that the Nation has a lot to lose under this administration.

This is why we need to ensure that we have more tools in our toolbox. It is time to retool to fight hunger.

Food is the glue that keeps neighborhoods and nations united. Together, let's roll up our sleeves and work to retool the way we fight hunger in our cities, our Nation, and around the globe. Our food policy is our foreign policy.

HONORING AIR FORCE CAPTAIN JOE SMITH

(Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an American hero, Air Force Captain Joe Smith, as he makes his final flight home.

Though it has been nearly half a century since the 25-year-old fighter pilot was fatally shot down during the Vietnam war, he will finally be laid to rest in his hometown of Assumption, Illinois.

Thanks to the efforts of the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, a group which searches the world for missing American veterans, the remains of Joe Smith were identified, along with his plane, by using DNA analysis. The effort made to bring him home all these years later is a true testament to the military's motto of no soldier left behind.

Those who knew Joe remember him as being a bright, polite young man, who was well educated, earning his master's degree in business at the University of Notre Dame and Washington University.

Though he did not have to, Joe went willingly into the service, where he began as a first lieutenant and quickly worked his way up to the promotion of being a captain.

With the help of the Assumption Historical Society, Joe's widow, Elaine Mills, a native of Decatur, has worked hard to keep his memory alive and honor his service to our Nation.

I hope to do the same by recognizing him today on this House floor. Joe is a true hero. This country and this House will long remember his valor.

MARSHALL PLAN

(Mr. COSTA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, 70 years ago this week, Secretary of State George Marshall proposed an ambitious plan to rebuild Europe following the devastation of World War II.

Out of the Marshall Plan's transatlantic spirit of shared interests and economic cooperation, stronger military integration arose in the form of NATO. NATO, alongside the European Union, have formed the pillars of a safe, secure, and strong Europe while promoting the U.S. security and economic interests, our interests.

We must be firm in our commitment to article 5 of the NATO treaty. If America's commitment to the alliance is doubted, either by other NATO countries or adversaries of NATO, the peace secured by the United States and its allies will be threatened, make no mistake about it.

This is the longest peacetime period in Europe in over 1,000 years, which is really remarkable, and we should not take it for granted. It is our responsibility in Congress and in the White House to ensure that global order secured by NATO is strengthened, not damaged.

So it is important that we recognize this 70th anniversary of the Marshall Plan.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MARY GOSEK

(Mr. KATKO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a longtime central New York ovarian cancer advocate, Mary Gosek, who recently lost her own tremendous battle with the horrible disease.

Through her work as president of the Oswego Chapter of Hope for Heather, Mary devoted countless hours to educating women and men throughout our community on the symptoms and causes of ovarian cancer. Her great passion for finding a cure inspired many and gave hope to those who were suffering.

Mary's strength and determination was most visible in her efforts to raise awareness for ovarian cancer. Whether she was working together with her husband, Ed, to turn the Oswego State's ice hockey arena teal, organizing a teal

takeover of the Oswego Speedway, or sharing her own experiences in Washington or Albany, Mary was committed to saving lives. Her spirit and tenacity in the fight against ovarian cancer will always be remembered. May it serve as an inspiration for others.

In Mary's memory, I will continue to advocate for increased funding for research into cures, treatment, and prevention so that we can someday know a day free of ovarian cancer. May her name forever be remembered in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

Rest peacefully, Mary.

HONORING STEVE HARDY

(Mr. GARAMENDI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the memory of Mayor Steve Hardy of Vacaville, California, a man who dedicated his life to service, first in the U.S. Navy for 5 years, then as a policeman, and later in the California State Senate, where I had the privilege of working with him when he was the staff director of the Governmental Organization Committee.

During his tenure as mayor, he led the city through a very difficult period—the Great Recession—revising the city's finances, bringing it back to vitality, and also continuing the role of Vacaville as one of the major cities in my district. It was a great pleasure working with him during those years.

His marriage of 46 years to his wife, Jerri, is a testament not only to his service to the community, but also to his family. He is survived by his children. I look forward to his memory and to the future of Vacaville.

DEBBIE'S KIDNAPPING STORY

(Mr. POE of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Americans once thought that the horrors of human trafficking were a foreign problem. However, traffickers lurk all around us right here in America.

Debbie's mother thought nothing of letting her young daughter meet a friend in front of their yard one night to play. Her mother didn't realize her 15-year-old daughter, who was clad in her cartoon pajamas, was quickly abducted by two men in front of their house.

These deviants threw Debbie in the car, drugged her, and gang raped her. They threatened to shoot her if she ever tried to escape. For 60 days she was forced to have sex with countless men.

An anonymous tip led police to a hotel room where they found Debbie tied up and stashed under a bed. But many trafficking victims are never rescued. We cannot allow this scourge to